

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claims 1-4 have been rejected per 35 USC 103. Please cancel claims 1-4 and ADD new claims 5-8.

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1-4. (Canceled)

5. (New) An improved computer keyboard arrangement, which functions to allow a user to conveniently type graphic symbols, the arrangement comprising: a traditional computer keyboard enhanced to include at least one additional horizontal row of keys across a top portion thereof that bears said graphic symbols thereupon for typing said graphic symbols,

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said graphic symbols appearing upon a computer monitor linked to the device, said graphic symbols representing previously-determined words and phrases to facilitate on-line communications in an interactive global computer network, the keyboard manufactured in such a manner as to allow a user to interchange keys bearing graphic symbols, functioning to allow the user to place keys used most commonly in convenient positions for typing,

the keys further bearing removable identifying labels thereupon, said labels interchangeable in nature to allow the user to place said labels upon keys with previously assigned graphic symbols used most commonly in convenient positions for typing,

the improved keyboard comprising at least one row of said graphic symbols grouped together and relating to a previously determined theme, the improved keyboard bearing indicia thereon and generally multi-colored in appearance,

the graphic symbols selected from the group consisting of facial expressions, men, women, boys, girls and infants engaged in multiple previously determined activities, animals, fictional characters, food and drink items, trees and flowers, tools and equipment, vehicles, toys, sporting goods items, clothing items, furniture items, items relating to nature, space, and the environment, used to represent thoughts and feelings of the user in a shorthand manner, the improved keyboard functioning to allow for facilitated and expedited communication among computer users in global computer network chat rooms, local area network forums, and inter-office messages.

6. (New) The improved computer keyboard arrangement as described in claim 5, wherein the improved keyboard includes at least one row of said graphic symbols readily identifiable by children.

7. (New) The improved computer keyboard arrangement as described in claim 5, wherein the improved keyboard includes at least one row of graphic symbols intended for mature adults only.

8. (New) An improved computer keyboard arrangement, which functions to allow a user to conveniently type graphic symbols, the arrangement comprising: a traditional computer keyboard; and an auxiliary keyboard removably affixed to the traditional keyboard and retrofitted thereto, the auxiliary keyboard including keys that bears said graphic symbols thereupon for typing said graphic symbols,

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said graphic symbols appearing upon a computer monitor linked to the device, said graphic symbols represent previously determined words and phrases to facilitate on-line communications in an interactive global computer network, the keyboard manufactured in such a manner as to allow a user to interchange keys bearing graphic symbols, functioning to allow the user to place keys used most commonly in convenient positions for typing,

the keys further bearing removable identifying labels thereupon, said labels interchangeable in nature to allow the user to place said labels upon keys with previously assigned graphic symbols used most commonly in convenient positions for typing,

the improved keyboard comprising at least one row of said graphic symbols grouped together and relating to a previously determined theme, the improved keyboard bearing indicia thereon and generally multi-colored in appearance,

the graphic symbols selected from the group consisting of facial expressions, men, women, boys, girls and infants engaged in multiple previously determined activities, animals, fictional characters, food and drink items, trees and flowers, tools and equipment, vehicles, toys, sporting goods items, clothing items, furniture items, items relating to nature, space, and the environment, used to represent thoughts and feelings of the user in a shorthand manner, the improved keyboard functioning to allow for facilitated and expedited communication among computer users in global computer network chat rooms, local area network forums, and inter-office messages.

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